



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
**Department of Health Services**



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
Governor

March 8, 2004

TO: FAMILY PACT PROVIDERS

SUBJECT: NEW CLIENT EDUCATION AND COUNSELING MATERIALS  
Program Letter 04-02

The California Office of Family Planning (OFP) is pleased to announce the availability of new client education and counseling resources:

- “Birth Control – It’s Up To Me”, an overview of all FDA approved birth control methods, natural methods and sterilization in English and Spanish;
- “Birth Control – Myths and Methods”, a companion video to the booklets in English and Spanish; and
- “Improving Adolescent Access to Emergency Contraception, a video for adolescent clinical providers.

These materials are available to active, enrolled Family PACT (Planning, Access, Care and Treatment) providers at no cost through the Electronic Data Systems (EDS) distribution center. OFP supplies these resources to assist providers to meet the Education and Counseling Standard (G) that requires that all clients be provided with adequate information to make an informed choice about family planning methods, including: G.2.a) “A verbal dialogue and written description of all Family PACT approved methods.” (Family PACT Program Standards, [Policy, Procedures, and Billing Instructions, August 2001, Section 9, p. 9]).

The booklet, “Birth Control: It’s up to Me?”, will be automatically shipped by EDS when you order the English version of the outdated booklet “What is Right for You.” Or you may use the “Education and Counseling Material – FAX ORDER FORM” attached to this letter and/or posted on the Family PACT web site, [www.familypact.org](http://www.familypact.org) under Forms.



Do your part to help California save energy. To learn more about saving energy, visit the following web site:  
<http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/flex/index.html>

The Spanish version of the booklet will be available on May 1, 2004. One copy of each of the videos described below will be provided at no cost to each active Family PACT provider number. If you have not ordered the videos, you may do so by completing the enclosed Video Order Form and faxing the form to (916) 650-0468. All video orders must be received at OFP by April 19, 2004.

1. Emergency Contraception: This ten-minute video features both adolescents and health experts who discuss the important role of EC in teen pregnancy prevention. Although EC could avert as many as 50 percent of teen pregnancies and consequent abortions (Alan Guttmacher Institute, 2002), many providers still do not routinely discuss EC with their teen patients. It will be a valuable resource for peer, parent, staff and consumer education. Produced by Population Services International.

2. Birth Control: Myths and Methods (4<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2003): This up to date video was revised by OFP staff and consultants. It is an introduction of current and new birth control options with a focus on adolescents and young adults. The content will reinforce the newly released "It's Up to Me: Birth Control Choices" client booklet. Produced by SVE & Churchill Media. Available in English and Spanish with Spanish speaking actors.

The birth control informational booklets and the videos will enhance educational and counseling services as well as support ongoing staff development for new employees or those employees who are new to family planning counseling. Additional information regarding their use in your practice will be provided at upcoming Provider Forums. If you have questions or comments you may call Sharlyn Hansen, at (916) 650-0414.

Sincerely,

*[Original signed by Anna Ramírez]*

Anna Ramírez, M.P.H., Chief  
Office of Family Planning

Enclosures